

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 1/14/2004

GAIN Report Number: TU4003

Turkey Cotton and Products Cotton Update 2004

Approved by:

Jim Higgiston, Agricultural Counselor U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

Ibrahim Sirtioglu, Agricultural Marketing Specialist

Report Highlights:

Turkey's MY2004 cotton area and production is expected to increase slightly to 720,000 hectares and 930,000 MT. Most observers believe cotton production will fluctuate between 900,000 MT and 1 MMT during the next three years depending on market and weather conditions. Expansion in the Southeast will compensate for declining area in traditional cotton-growing areas, particularly in the Cukurova and to a lesser degree, Aegean regions.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Ankara [TU1]

Executive Summary

Turkey's MY 2004 cotton area and production is expected to increase slightly to 720,000 hectares and 930,000 MT. Higher world cotton prices during MY 2003 are expected to convince farmers to plant cotton next season. While most of the increase in planting is expected to take place in the Southeast Anatolian (GAP) and Aegean regions, planting in the Cukurova and Antalya regions is expected to remain stagnant. Construction of irrigation canals in the GAP region, where already about half of the domestic cotton crop is grown, is continuing, albeit at a slower than appreciated speed. About 2,000 hectares of newly irrigated land in the region is expected to be available for cotton planting next season.

Most observers believe cotton production will fluctuate between 900,000 MT and 1 MMT during the next three years depending on market and weather conditions. Expansion in the Southeast just compensates for declining area in traditional cotton growing areas, particularly in the Cukurova region and to a lesser degree, the Aegean region.